

budget deficit, lack of health care, or jobs. His greatest concern was his 4-year-old daughter, Erica.

How can we ensure that Erica and all other American children will be safe, secure and successful in this changing world?

The answer is we must build an education system that makes sure Erica is healthy and alert; has the basic skills to compete with youngsters from all over the world for high technology jobs; and most importantly, our education system must give Erica access to the continuing education and knowledge that she will need throughout her lifetime.

Erica's small rural school in New Mexico and schools like hers all over our country must have the ability to keep up with the changing world.

My charge to you today as you begin a new life is this: Please don't stop educating yourself. Make it a lifelong pursuit. And just as important—please care for your community's educational system so that children like Erica have that same opportunity in the years to come.

Thank you and congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO CLAUDIA M. KNIGHT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Claudia Knight. Claudia is retiring after nearly 35 years of personal and professional devotion to public education. Tomorrow evening, Friday, May 26, 1995, the Macomb County Section of the National Council of Negro Women is honoring Claudia during their Annual Scholarship Banquet.

For the past 25 years, Claudia has been teaching in my home community of Mount Clemens, MI. During her tenure with the Mount Clemens school district, Claudia has applied her talents to teaching business education courses and managing the business education department. In addition to serving in numerous leadership and school improvement capacities, she has received recognition from the Michigan Business Education Association, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, and the Mount Clemens community schools.

Taking an active role in one's community is a responsibility we all share, but few fulfill. Claudia Knight has devoted herself to this task through both her civic and professional endeavors. Her commitment to education is second to none and yet she volunteers much of her time to civic and social organizations. The Girl Scouts of America, the Michigan Council of the Arts, the Macomb Child Guidance Clinic, and many other groups have all benefited from Claudia's passionate commitment to excellence.

Claudia also serves on the Scholarship Funding Committee of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). Through her work with the NCNW, students who may not have had a chance to receive an education will now have that opportunity. I applaud Claudia for her efforts and hope that her commitment to education will be passed on to a generation of students who are just as dedicated.

I have known Claudia for many years and I am sure she will be missed by both her colleagues and students. She richly deserves all the best in retirement. I ask that my colleagues join me in offering heartfelt congratula-

tions and a sincere thank you for a job well done.

THANKS, CELEBRITY READERS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating an important program in the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey, the Celebrity Read Program. The program asks adults, both famous and not so famous, to come into the school system and read a passage to students about an important historical event involving people of color. The program then asks the participants to share a few of their life experiences with the class.

The program this year had 400 adult participants read to over 10,000 youth. In the past, readers have ranged from former New York Giant football players Harry Carson, Joe Morris, and George Martin to Superior Court judges to jazz singer and Broadway star, Carrie Smith. However, one of the most important components of this program is that the definition of celebrity is not limited to the narrow, superficial denotation that most might think; on the contrary, in this program, local business people, entrepreneurs, and everyday citizens are considered celebrities. In fact, one of the program's credos is that "people from all walks of life and at various levels of accomplishment can serve as a source of inspiration to our inner city youth."

It warms my heart that in the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey there are organizations that are acting on the phrase "I believe the children are our future" by doing something to help them become prepared for that future. Thank you to the Celebrity Read Program and to the 400 celebrity readers for taking the time to nurture and cultivate our leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me this opportunity to share with my colleagues some of the exciting things we are doing in New Jersey to solidify our Nation's future.

TRIBUTE TO MORTON GOULD

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to a great American, Morton Gould, who was recently honored with this year's Pulitzer Prize for music composition, adding yet another great honor to a career filled with achievement and distinction.

Mr. Gould has been a musician since he was able to touch a piano. A child prodigy, he published his first composition at the age of 6, and by the age of 21 was conducting and arranging a weekly series of orchestra radio programs for the WOR Mutual Network. In a career that has spanned the greater part of this century, he has become famous for music which sings with a uniquely American voice; his compositions have integrated folk, blues, jazz, gospel, and other elements into music

that both explores and elevates all aspects of American style.

Appropriately, this composer of truly American works was honored with three commissions for the celebrations of the bicentennial of our Nation in 1976. These were his Symphony of Spirituals, American Ballads, and Something to Do.

He has appeared with and conducted orchestras across the United States and the world, and his compositions have been played in countless concerts, danced by the finest ballet companies, sung in Broadway theaters, and most importantly, enjoyed by all.

His skill as a musician is matched by his warmth and humor in person. His friends marvel at the way he can tell a story with the same grace with which he conducts an orchestra.

His talents have been recognized long before his receipt of the Pulitzer Prize. The numerous awards he has received include a Grammy Award and 12 Grammy nominations, the 1983 Gold Baton Award presented by the American Symphony Orchestra League, and the 1985 Medal of Honor for Music from the National Arts Club. In 1986 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters and received the National Music Council's Golden Eagle Award, and in 1994, he received the prestigious Kennedy Center Honor for a lifetime of contributions to the performing arts. I am happy, but in no way surprised, that Morton Gould and his music have been honored again.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE ADAMS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exemplary citizen from the Fourth District of Ohio, George Adams. George is retiring after serving as the principle of St. John High School in Delphos, OH, for 15 years. During his quarter century of service, over 1,750 students have graduated from St. John, benefiting from George's enthusiasm and commitment to the young people of his school and community. Among numerous other educational organizations, George has donated his time to the Ohio Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Education Association. His service extends beyond his work with the Delphos schools. As the father of four children, George provides a fine example of citizen combining service to his community with family life. Having served on the board of trustees of the St. John Parish Foundation, the Bishop's Education Council, and the Knights of Columbus, George has proven extraordinary benevolence to his church. I would like to thank George for his service to both St. John High School, and to the Delphos community. Through his earnest dedication, George serves as a role model for each citizen.